

Pillsburv Winthrop Shaw Pittman...

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June 30, 2005

Via Electronic Filing and Courier to Mellon Bank

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Request for Waiver of the Replication/Maximization Interference Protection Deadline and for Special Temporary Authority (STA) WLOS-DT, Asheville, NC (FIN: 56537) MB Docket No. 03-15

Dear Ms. Dortch:

By this letter, WLOS Licensee LLC, the permittee of WLOS-DT, Asheville, North Carolina ("WLOS"), hereby requests a temporary six-month extension and waiver of the July 1, 2005 replication/maximization interference protection deadline and an extension of its STA to operate at low power. See Public Notice, DA 05-1636 (June 15, 2005). As discussed in detail below, a waiver is warranted here because the commencement of full-power operations has been delayed by factors beyond the licensee's control and because the public interest would be served. The station is presently operating at low power pursuant to an STA, File No. BEDSTA-20041126AEP.

WLOS has received delivery of its full-power digital antenna and transmitter and that equipment has been installed. However, Acrodyne Industries, Inc. ("Acrodyne"), the transmitter manufacturer, has met with technical difficulties in the commissioning of the transmitter and has recently informed WLOS that it would not be able to meet the FCC's July deadline. Although Acrodyne expects to have the technical issues resolved by July 31, 2005, WLOS is requesting a six-month extension out of an abundance of caution. Attached is a letter from Acrodyne.

Marlene H. Dortch June 30, 2005 Page 2

For the above reasons, WLOS submits that good cause exists to grant this waiver request. See, e.g., Digital Television Construction Deadline, 16 FCC Rcd 8122, at ¶ 11 (2001) (last minute mechanical failure is circumstance beyond a licensee's control warranting extension of DTV construction deadlines); see also Instructions, FCC Form 337, at 2 ("technical obstacles" warrant extension of DTV construction deadlines). Moreover, given the anticipated brevity of the delay and the importance of ensuring that viewers receive over-the-air digital signals, the public interest would be served by granting WLOS the additional time to comply with the replication/maximization deadline.

This submission is accompanied by an Anti-Drug Abuse Certification Form, an FCC Form 159, and a check made payable to the Commission in the amount of \$150.00 to cover the requisite STA filing fee. If there are any questions concerning this request, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

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Kathryn R. Schmeltzer
Tony Lin
Counsel for WLOS Licensee LLC

Attachments

cc:

(w/attachments)

Shaun Maher (by hand delivery)

Document #: 1487378 v.1



Corporate Headquarters 10706 Beaver Dam Road Cockeysville, MD 21030 888.881.4447 f: 410.568.1546

Manufacturing Facility 200 Schell Lane Phoenixville, PA 19460 800.523.2596 f: 610.917.8148 www.acrodyne.com

June 30, 2005

Mr. Harvey Arnold Director of Engineering Sinclair Broadcast Group 10706 Beaver Dam Road Cockeysville, MD 21030

Dear Harvey,

Regarding the installation and commissioning of your transmitter at WLOS-DT in Ashville, NC, I regret to report that we have had some technical difficulties that will prevent us from meeting your deadline based on the FCC requirements for high power digital operation. I am confident that these technical issues will be easily resolved and will allow us to complete the site work by July 31.

Sincerely,

Ray Kiesel VP, R&D

Ai, Acrodyne Industries

ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT CERTIFICATION

The applicant certifies that, in the case of an individual applicant, he or she is not subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. §862, or, in the case of a non-individual applicant (e.g. corporation, partnership or other unincorporated association), no party to the application is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to that section. For the definition of a "party" for these purposes, see 47 C.F.R. §1.2002(b).

	⊠ Yes	□ No	
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Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

Wachovia Bank, N.A.

Silver Spring, Maryland 20900

Silver Spring, Maryland 20900

Cockeysville, MD 21030

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